

December 18, 2016

United States Environmental Protection Agency Via <a href="https://www.grants.gov">www.grants.gov</a>

RE: EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant—Community Wide Proposal FY 2017

#### Dear Grant Review Committee:

The Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA) appreciates the opportunity to submit the enclosed proposal for a \$300,000 Community Wide Assessment Grant to address selected brownfield areas within the City of Syracuse. This grant would greatly benefit our poor and low income neighborhoods surrounding these brownfield sites as much of our downtown area is scarred with vacant industrial manufacturing facilities associated with a variety of past uses, such as lead works, pharmaceuticals, and soda ash. These Brownfield sites are in prime locations, such as waterfront and downtown districts where cit

While OCIDA covers all 19 town and 15 villages within Onondaga County, the economic engine for the County is undoubtedly the City of Syracuse, located at the figurative and geographic center of the County. However, even with all of this economic opportunity in our region, Syracuse is home to our greatest social and environmental challenges. The practice of "redlining" led to segregated neighborhoods concentrating minority populations into the poorest Census tracks in the country. The site is located in a prime location to positively impact many of these poor racially divided census tracks by reducing exposure to harmful toxins, increasing urban green space and providing paths for safe egress between our City and suburban towns.

We have identified six of these former industrial properties as candidates for assessment, all with significant redevelopment potential based on their size, location, and other factors. Due to the extensive contamination on these sites, combined with an inhospitable tax climate that drove out industrial business, these sites have little prospect of remediation without assistance from grant funding.

OCIDA plans to use its resources of payments in lieu of tax (PILOT) to help make these properties more attractive for developers or public entities so that they are safe for human health and the environment. We are requesting the support of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help our local agencies off-set the costs associated with assessment of the Site, which was left from a bankrupted contaminator. This project would benefit one of the poorest areas within our region, which is also one of the needlest areas in the country, through decreased exposure to harmful toxins, increased opportunity for safe bicycle and pedestrian access, and increased quality of life through increased green space.

This grant would greatly benefit our County and specifically the City of Syracuse as we continue to work to alleviate the historic environmental injustice which has plagued our community.

Included below is the specific information request in the proposal guidelines:

- a. <u>Applicant:</u> Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency, 333 W. Washington Street, Suite 130: DUNS: 079577021
- b. Funding Requested:
  - i) Grant Type: Assessment
  - ii) <u>Assessment Grant Type:</u> Community Wide
  - iii) <u>Federal Funds Requested:</u> \$300,000 total (\$200,000 for Hazardous Substances, \$100,000 for Petroleum)
  - iv) <u>Contamination</u>: Hazardous Substances and Petroleum
- c. <u>Location</u>: City of Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York
- d. Property Information for Site-Specific Proposals: Not Applicable Community-wide request
- e. Contacts
  - i) <u>Project Director</u> Isabelle Harris, Economic Development Specialist, Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency, 333 W. Washington Street, Suite 130, Syracuse, NY 13202. Tel: (315) 435-3770, E-mail: iharris@ongov.net
  - ii) Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Elected Official: Joanne Mahoney, County Executive, 421 Montgomery Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Syracuse NY 13202. Tel: (315) 435-3516, Fax: (315) 435-8582, E-mail: JoanneMahoney@ongov.net
- f. Population
  - i) <u>General Population</u> 144,142 (City of Syracuse, 2014 Census)
  - ii) <u>Target Area Population</u> 5,438 (2014 Onondaga County Community Benchmark Report)
  - iii) Affirmation of Persistent Poverty: Our jurisdiction is currently experiencing "persistent poverty" with more than 20% of our population living in poverty over the past 30 years.
- g. Regional Priorities Form/Other Factors Checklist: Attached to this Cover Letter.
- h. Letter from the State Authority: Attached to this Cover Letter.
- i. Date Submitted
- j. <u>Project Period</u>: October 2017 September 2020.

We thank you in advance for considering our grant application. If you have any questions or require clarification on elements in this proposal, please call our Project Director at (315) 435-3770. We look forward to the possibility of working together in the future.

Sincerely,

Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency

#### Isabelle Harris

**Economic Development Specialist** 

#### 1. COMMUNITY NEED

# a. Target Area and Brownfields

#### . Community and Target Area Descriptions

Syracuse is known as 'Salt City' from its days of supplying most of the state, including the majority of New York City, with salt between 1850 and 1920 from an early industrial boom in salt production, as well as pottery and candle making. The construction of the Erie Canal was crucial to the development of Syracuse as a major commercial center, bringing in companies like Carrier Corporation, Rockwell International, Crouse-Hinds, and General Electric. Companies utilized Onondaga Lake for their production processes, transportation and often disposed of production waste in and around the lake. These activities persisted until the 1950s, when the city's population declined as the move to the suburbs began in earnest. Many industries, such as typewriters, soda ash, lead works, and pharmaceuticals, closed due to innovations in technology and new understanding of environmental health hazards, leaving huge swaths of land contaminated around Onondaga Lake and its vicinity. High property taxes in New York State (NYS) created an inhospitable business environment in Syracuse, which caused many businesses, such as General Electric and Carrier Corporation, to relocate their headquarters out of state. This has shifted the City of Syracuse's labor force from mostly manufacturing-based to predominately service-based, leaving contaminated former industrial manufacturing sites vacant.

Urban renewal efforts in the city were unevenly applied, forcing poor and minority communities to reside in close proximity to these contaminated properties, such as zip code 13204, which is adjacent to Onondaga Lake and contains a number of former industrial sites that have since degraded to vacant brownfield areas. The two neighborhoods located near the sites (**the Target Area**), the City's West Side and Southside, are locations of extreme poverty especially among African American and Hispanic populations.

ii. Demographic Information and Indicators of Need

13204	City of Syracuse	New York	National
Target Area		State	
5,438 <sup>5</sup>	144,142 <sup>6</sup>	19,795,791 <sup>6</sup>	314,107,084 <sup>1</sup>
17% <sup>7</sup>	5.3%6	5.7% <sup>6</sup>	5.0% <sup>2</sup>
53% <sup>4</sup>	35.1%6	15.4 <sup>6</sup>	15.6% <sup>3</sup>
50%+ <sup>4</sup>	44% <sup>6</sup>	29.9% <sup>6</sup>	37.2% <sup>1</sup>
\$14,437 <sup>7</sup>	\$22,901 <sup>6</sup>	\$58,687 <sup>6</sup>	\$54,482 <sup>3</sup>
1,152 <sup>5</sup>	1,899 <sup>5</sup>	16,000 <sup>6</sup>	18,600,000 <sup>3</sup>
12% <sup>4</sup>	11% <sup>4</sup>	22.3%6	13.1% <sup>6</sup>
31%4	29.9%6	13.9%3	19%³
68% <sup>4</sup>			48%¹
34% (1,927 homes) <sup>7</sup>	38.5%6	54.2% <sup>6</sup>	64.4% <sup>3</sup>
\$6,097,920 (31%)5	\$19,484,4975	-	
2,071 (38%)5	5,3855	-	
	Target Area 5,438 <sup>5</sup> 17% <sup>7</sup> 53% <sup>4</sup> 50%+ <sup>4</sup> \$14,437 <sup>7</sup> 1,152 <sup>5</sup> 12% <sup>4</sup> 31% <sup>4</sup> 68% <sup>4</sup> 34% (1,927 homes) <sup>7</sup> \$6,097,920 (31%) <sup>5</sup>	Target Area           5,438 <sup>5</sup> 144,142 <sup>6</sup> 17% <sup>7</sup> 5.3% <sup>6</sup> 53% <sup>4</sup> 35.1% <sup>6</sup> 50%+ <sup>4</sup> 44% <sup>6</sup> \$14,437 <sup>7</sup> \$22,901 <sup>6</sup> 1,152 <sup>5</sup> 1,899 <sup>5</sup> 12% <sup>4</sup> 11% <sup>4</sup> 31% <sup>4</sup> 29.9% <sup>6</sup> 68% <sup>4</sup> 34% (1,927 homes) <sup>7</sup> 38.5% <sup>6</sup> \$6,097,920 (31%) <sup>5</sup> \$19,484,497 <sup>5</sup>	Target Area         State           5,4385         144,1426         19,795,7916           17%7         5.3%6         5.7%6           53%4         35.1%6         15.46           50%+4         44%6         29.9%6           \$14,4377         \$22,9016         \$58,6876           1,1525         1,8995         16,0006           12%4         11%4         22.3%6           31%4         29.9%6         13.9%3           68%4         34% (1,927 homes)7         38.5%6         54.2%6           \$6,097,920 (31%)5         \$19,484,4975

12014 American Community Survey data profile and are available on American FactFinder

Bureau of Labor Statistics (The Employment Situation – March 2016) 2014 American Community Survey data profile and are available on

American FactFinder <sup>4</sup> 2014 Mapping Economic, Educational & Housing and Neighborhood

Opportunity in Onondaga County & Syracuse, NY 

⁵ Housing in Syracuse and Onondaga County 2014 Community Benchmark
Program Report

<sup>6</sup> United States Census Bureau

7 City of Syracuse Southside Neighborhood Profile

\*Housing Cost Rurdens are defined as Percentage of household income spent for mortgage costs or gross rent. According to HUD programs, households spending more than 30 percent of income for

these housing costs are considered to be "cost-burdened."
Households spending more than 50 percent are considered to be
"severely cost-burdened" by the 2014 Mapping Economic.
Educational & Housing and Neighborhood Opportunity in Onondaga
County & Syracuse

The Near West Side and Southside are locations of extreme poverty (income below \$23,000), especially among African American and Hispanic populations. According to the American Community Survey (2015), one out of every two children within the City of Syracuse is poor; that totals to an estimated 16,600 children, which is 46.9% of all the City's children. The rate of families in poverty within the City was about 26.6% in 2013, and total poverty was about 33.2% in 2013. Between 2008 and 2012, Syracuse reported a four-year high for its poverty rate and unemployment rate (Wogan, 2013). The vulnerable populations near the **Target Area** include foreign-born residents, disabled populations, and those with housing cost burdens.

#### iii. Brownfields and Their Impacts

All of the Brownfield Sites identified in our preliminary inventory are located in the Target Area and are surrounded by residential neighborhoods. These sites are currently vacant and zoned as an industrial district. The Sites are likely or confirmed to contain high concentrations of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs and SVOCs), metals, glycols, cadmium and lead.

The Brownfield sites are all located on the southern edge of Onondaga Lake, where several other brownfields and Superfund sites are located. There are 12 subsites throughout the City associated with the Onondaga Lake Superfund Site, which include: the Onondaga Lake Bottom; Geddes Brook/Ninemile Creek; Willis Avenue; LCP Bridge Street-Operable Unit 1; Wastebed B/Harbor Brook; Semet Tar Beds; Town of Salina Landfill; Lower Ley Creek; Ley Creek PCB Dredging; General Motors—Inland Fisher Guide; National Grid—Hiawatha Boulevard; and Wastebeds 1-8. These sites are known to have released and potentially released mercury, PCBs, pesticides, creosotes, heavy metals (including lead, cobalt and mercury), polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PHAs) and VOCs such as chlorobenzene.

Candidate brownfield sites selected for this Assessment Grant include:

- Smith and Caffrey Steel (2625 Lodi St.) is a former foundry and may have released solvents from residual steel cutting oil.
- Superior Lubricants (2713 Lodi St.) is a registered petroleum bulk storage facility that has withheld information from public records.
- Seitz Oil (2717 Lodi St.) operated from at least 1930-1962 and distilled oil from crude. A large fire in 1962 destroyed the facility and there were apparent spills during the fire.
- Quanta Resources (2802-2810 Lodi, 103 Wolf) is a Class 2 Inactive Hazardous Waste Site, regulated through NYS Superfund program. Former waste oil recycling facility in operation from 1929-1981.
- Greyhound Garage and Body Shop (701 Hiawatha Blvd.) five underground storage tanks were removed; a reported petroleum tank failure occurred in 1988.
- *Penman-Littlehales Chemical Co.* (418 Hiawatha Blvd.) manufactured potash, aqua ammonia, and Prussian blue, which leaked into the surrounding area.

The presence of un-remediated brownfields has an adverse effect on the adjacent residential neighborhoods. Those neighborhoods which are in close proximity to the Target Area, are some of the poorest sections of the City of Syracuse, and would benefit from the revitalization of these brownfield sites. Due to the extensive contamination on these sites, such as PCBs, VOCs, and SVOCs, heavy metals (mercury and lead), and glycols as well as buildings with asbestos, combined with inhospitable tax climate which drove out industrial businesses, these sites have little prospect of remediation. Remediated

properties would benefit both the public health of the surrounding neighborhoods by decreasing human exposure to toxic substances, as well as getting a vacant property back into productive reuse.

#### b. Welfare, Environmental, and Public Health Impacts

#### i. Welfare Impacts

There are approximately 1,800 vacant, non-seizable properties within the City of Syracuse, meaning no property owner currently exists and these properties do not generate vital revenue to local government. According to the City of Syracuse Vacant Property Registry, to live next to a vacant property is often times to live next to a breeding ground for nuisance and crime. Vacant structures impact the value of nearby property.

Vacant properties cause neighborhoods to decline, and this has wide-ranging effects on residents, including children and student populations. Of all students in the Syracuse City School District (SCSD), 19% have disabilities, and 84% get free and reduced lunch. According to the *SCSD Transformation through Collaboration Report from May 2012*, 96% of students are in underperforming schools, and only 51% of high school students graduate on time. These numbers represent a larger problem: students are not receiving the help they need at home because poverty places burdens on these families just to put food on their table. The rate of families in poverty within the City was about 26.6% in 2013, and total poverty was about 33.2% in 2013. Between 2008 and 2012, Syracuse reported a four-year high for its poverty rate and unemployment rate (Wogan, 2013). City and County efforts have been focused on increasing employment and offering services for those in severe need. Communities outside the **Target Area**, such as neighboring zip code 13214, have better educational opportunities: the graduation rate from high school in this area was 95.5% in 2013, according to Open Data Network. The median household income for 13214 was \$62,386, compared to the median income of \$14,437 in the **Target Area**. Communities without brownfield or pollution issues appear to fare much better than those such as the **Target Area**, which are inundated with environmental concerns.

According to City of Syracuse crime reports, crime incidence is higher in the **Target Area**. According to City Data, the violent crime (murder, non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) rate in 2016 in Syracuse was 436.5 incidences compared to the U.S. average of 202.6. About 80% of those incidences took place in the **Target Area**. The violent crime rate in the City on a scale of 1 (low crime) to 100 (high), is 77, according to *Sperling's Best Places*. The **Target Area** has a rating of 90 on this violent crime scale. Both of these rating are significantly higher than the national average of 31.1. Syracuse is the fifth largest city in NYS, but ranks 8 in the state for violent crimes per 1,000 residents according to 2013 FBI statistics. These crime numbers demonstrate the other factors holding these impoverished communities hostage to locational variables that make it difficult for them to get out of poverty or overcome violence and health threats.

The construction of Interstate 81 (I-81) (discussed below) caused major barriers to development for these neighborhoods. Through the redlining caused by I-81, residents are cut off from grocery stores, retail areas, parks, and Onondaga Lake itself. The **Target Area** received a D rating, which is considered "least desirable" and "declining" neighborhoods, and were not eligible for federally backed mortgages. The level of safe walkability around I-81 is low. According to the *Onondaga Lake Rehabilitation Guidance: The 2020 Vision Report*, many community members would like to see downtown Syracuse connected to the lake, the Loop-the-Lake Trail and lakeshore activities by a system of trails to downtown, thus greatly improving access to the lake. I-81 is a major barrier for connection, and a number of brownfield sites, like the ones

mentioned above, sit around this interstate system. Impoverished neighborhoods and high crime rates tend to concentrate in areas surrounding I-81.

#### ii. Cumulative Environmental Issues

In addition to the environmental stress of brownfields and Superfund sites, the community is exposed to the following:

- Reporting to EPA within the **Target Area**: Environmental Products Services of Vermont, Inc.; Feher Rubbish Removal Inc.; NYSDOT Bridge Bin 1049649; NYSDOT Route 690 over CSX NYS; Celi Builders Inc.; Mucci Motor Truck Co. Inc.; Swedish Auto Service; Syracuse Rust Proofing Inc.; Jamesville Penitentiary Stp.; Central Auto Recycling; Hess Corp Syracuse Terminal
- The Onondaga County Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant (650 Hiawatha Blvd. W., Syracuse NY 13204) emits odor, noise, and stormwater runoff into Onondaga Lake.
- The CSX Railroad Tracks that run through some of the sites has a medium rail traffic volume and emits noise, air, dust, spill pollution, etc.
- Midland Sewage Treatment Plant (Southside neighborhood of Syracuse NY) displaced 35 African-American families when it was built; causes air pollution, loss of landscape/aesthetic degradation, biodiversity loss (wildlife, agro-diversity), waste overflow, surface water pollution/decreasing water (physico-chemical, biological) quality, groundwater pollution or depletion.
- The Centro Bus Garage emits noise pollution, air pollutants from buses, and heavy traffic.
- ➤ Hiawatha Boulevard is home to a number of the Onondaga Lake Superfund subsites, and a number of brownfields next to the Onondaga County Metro Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency Waste to Energy Facility emits air pollution by incinerating trash; this is in operation because Cortland County has a landfill that is running a deficit.
- Tully Valley Mudboils, a hydrogeologic phenomenon, cause significant amounts of sediment to Onondaga Creek and Onondaga Lake, causing a major decrease in native fish populations. This influences the turbidity of Onondaga Lake, another factor considered in the Superfund requirements.
- Interstate 81 (I-81) (discussed below) caused major barriers to development in these neighborhoods since its construction in 1957, and its impacts are discussed in section 1.b.i.

#### iii. <u>Cumulative Public Health Impacts</u>

The brownfields and other sources of contamination are suspected of contributing to the following health concerns: The Sites have high concentrations of PCBs from its decades of destructive industry, such as a scrap metal recycling. PCBs cause both acute and chronic health issues such as disrupted reproductive function, neurobehavioral and developmental deficits, thyroid hormone toxicity, liver damage, increased serum levels of hepatic enzymes, and cancer, as discovered through research from Onondaga Community College and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.

Onondaga County Department of Health is currently conducting a study on the amount of PCB and mercury contaminants in local immigrant populations throughout the City of Syracuse to monitor the effects of fish consumption. Great numbers of Burmese, Bhutanese, Nepali, and Somali populations fish the waters of Onondaga Lake and exposed to these toxins through the consumption of fish and contact with the shoreline area. These populations access the shores through these Southern end sites (such as the former Roth Steel property) to fish for sustenance. New American populations may not have the economic stability to shop the local supermarket for their food, or have the transportation to get there; therefore, many rely on the Lake.

Lead contamination in the target area is of major concern to public health officials. Exposure to lead can come from in-home sources such as pipes and paint, public spaces such as school and municipal facilities, or from contaminated environments, like the brownfields noted above. Syracuse had the nation's highest percentage of children with lead poisoning between 2009 and 2015, according to a study published in the Journal of Pediatrics, and the Target Area is the epicenter for lead poisoning in the City. A study completed by Quest Diagnostics in Syracuse found that lead poisoning can cause lower IQs, long-lasting brain damage, and many other health concerns. The study mentioned above found that 40% of Syracuse children had blood lead levels between 5 and 10 micrograms per deciliter, while 16% had levels exceeding 10 micrograms per deciliter.

The infant mortality rate is 7.1 in Onondaga County, which is significantly higher than the NYS average rate of 5.3, with mortality significantly higher for blacks versus whites. A suspected cause for this is the increased exposure to toxins caused by the higher rate of blacks living in vulnerable, poverty-stricken areas, which are also associated with brownfields properties.

Hunger also plagues the City of Syracuse, with approximately 17,908 individuals with unmet food needs according to the Syracuse Hunger Project. The need lies most heavily within the Northside and Southside communities, including the **Target Area**, which is exacerbated by brownfield presence, as described above.

The alcohol-related motor vehicle injuries and death rate in Onondaga County (47.7 per 100,000) is significantly higher than NYS as a whole (36.2 per 100,000). Data from the Onondaga County Medical Examiner's Office show that in 2010, mortality from heroin-related overdoses was 0.21 per 100,000, while data from 2013 show an increase of more than 20-fold to 4.50 per 100,000. The newborn drug-related discharge rate for 2009-2011 in Onondaga County was 248.3 per 100,000 births, compared to 72.6 per 100,000 births for NYS. Vacant brownfields leave spaces for drug and alcohol-abusers to hide out and fuel these habits, and do not provide beneficial spaces for personal development.

#### c. Financial Need

#### . <u>Economic Conditions</u>

Industrial decline hit an all-time high after the recession hit and companies began leaving the area because of high property tax rates. The City has struggled to rebound economically, and cannot balance the issues of the City, such as loss of businesses, and vacancy of commercial and industrial properties while running at a deficit. Vacant brownfield sites are not producing taxes for the City or County, and are not lucrative to developers because of the costs associated with remediation. The City and County's budget situation has been affected by decades of disinvestment due to high property taxes and the shift of residents to the suburbs. The amount of taxes owed to Onondaga County (Table 1), and tax delinquent property data demonstrate that the ability to pay taxes is associated with the general ability of the municipality to seek out and provide basic resources for residents, and the ability of those residents to find or afford those resources. Higher numbers of tax delinquent properties and taxes owed demonstrates an area of economic and resource struggle within the City of Syracuse. Residents who can no longer work in the City are fleeing to the suburbs and leaving poverty-stricken communities to fend for themselves because of their inability to afford to move. According to The Central New York Fetal-Infant Mortality/Morbidity Review, Syracuse has the second-highest child poverty rate in the US for Hispanics and the worst rate in NYS for blacks. The following sectors lost jobs in 2016: 1,900 in business professional services, 1,400 in education-health services, 700 in natural resources-mining-construction, and 100 each in financial activities and in other services (Syracuse.com).

ii. <u>Economic Effects of Brownfields</u> According to City of Syracuse Data, the brownfields in Syracuse have a huge burden on City services, including: public safety (fire and police departments), health (air and water pollution), public works (trash, maintenance), and economic development (lack of incentives for developers to purchase contaminated sites). As these brownfields sit, they do not produce property taxes and represent lost income for City residents.

Combined, the brownfields sites mentioned above account for approximately 70-90 acres. Most are vacant and underutilized. The opportunity cost of these vacant properties, compared to an industrial or commercial site, are \$6,868/ac/year in property taxes, and 20-40 employees, based on the estimated square footage allowed on these sites under current zoning.

#### 2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND FEASIBILITY OF SUCCESS

- a. Project Description, Timing, and Implementation
  - i. Project Description and Alignment with Revitalization Plans

The City of Syracuse's Comprehensive Plan 2020 was updated in 2014-2015. This plan contains the community's vision for the maintenance and enhancement of brownfield sites in the Target Area, as well as a citywide Brownfield Reclamation Program. The City of Syracuse has worked closely with Onondaga County, NYSDEC, and US EPA to evaluate, inventory, plan for, and redevelop brownfield properties in the City and will continue to seek opportunities and partnerships to further this initiative, including this grant. The City and County are currently working to include additional corridors in the Brownfields Opportunity Area program, encourage private property owners to utilize the Brownfield Cleanup Program tax-credit, and identify and address barriers to facilitating redevelopment of brownfields via municipal acquisition. The City requires that redevelopment support energy efficient designs and "green" building technology projects when creating new infrastructure. Protecting existing infrastructure through the protection of historic buildings, as well as designing landscapes for the enjoyment of future generations and as an economic development opportunity are additional goals of the Comprehensive Plan that the grant supports.

The land use section was informed by the City's Comprehensive Plan, Tomorrow's Neighborhoods Today (TNT)-area 5-year plans, and extensive public involvement that contributed to the 2009 draft Land Use Plan for the City of Syracuse. This draft plan was developed throughout 2010-2011 by an interdepartmental panel of City staff to better reflect Smart Growth principles and set the stage for a transition to a form-based zoning ordinance. Additional public feedback was gathered at TNT meetings in summer and fall of 2010 to inform the first draft and identify neighborhood-level priorities for future development. Public feedback specific to the land use plan was gathered at TNT meetings during September and October of 2011. Several neighborhood-specific meetings were held as requested during the fall of 2011 and a city-wide public meeting was held in October. City officials will continue to contact area residents to identify sites, and conduct citizen interviews to gather historical knowledge and fire-hand information about sites in our inventory.

The grant also aligns with the following County and City plans and initiatives:

- The Onondaga Lake Trail Extension Project will extend the trail through portions of the sites, over CSX railroad, and connect to the City of Syracuse Creek Walk trail. A portion of the sites will feature recreational green space for some of the City's poorest census tracts. The sites will also become an entry point to the lakefront for communities that have not had those opportunities previously.
- County Sustainability Plan calls for the existing structure of the CSX railroad to be used as a multi-modal transportation crossing, with the proposed Lake Extension Trail continuing over the railroad to

- enable community connections by utilizing existing transportation methods, open up new corridors of transportation and connection through the extension of our lake trail.
- The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for Central New York includes long-range actions to improve area services and public facilities to retain existing businesses and attract new companies to the region, which this grant will do with the brownfield sites listed above.

#### **Options for Redevelopment in the Target Area:**

Our expected outcomes are to return the selected Brownfield sites back to economic vitality (commercial business space) or for the public's use and enjoyment (green recreational space). This is not only expected for our selected sites, but also for our nearby properties that have been impacted by the stigma of being proximate to our Brownfield sites. The eventual remediation of Brownfield sites will minimize the exposure both at the sites and adjacent properties, but just as importantly, to Onondaga Lake. Additional expected outcomes of completing remedial activities of select Brownfield sites will be the creation of new jobs, as well as the increased tax base accompanying revitalization and development within the downtown and waterfront areas of the City.

#### ii. <u>Timing and Implementation</u>

- (a) Contractor procurement: The County will be ready to implement the tasks below as soon as the grant is awarded. Through a Request for Proposal process using EPA procurement procedures, OCIDA will select appropriate consultants to conduct the assessment work specified below. The candidate sites will be assessed through a partnership with the City of Syracuse. The City has already compiled a Brownfield site inventory that determined the above sites, along with numerous others, as potential areas for redevelopment and improvement within various City communities. The above sites were selected as candidates for this assessment grant because of their proximity to Onondaga Lake and the neighborhoods with systemic blight within City limits. The County has received all the executive and administrative approvals from State, county and local jurisdictions to proceed with the tasks below. We will also apprise the community, discussed in Section 3.a.ii., on the progress of this grant.
- (b) Site Identification Process: Currently, the Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency (SOCPA) has developed a Brownfields Nomination Program. This study was completed in March 2014, and identified a number of Brownfield Opportunity Areas within the Target Area, known as the Hiawatha Lodi Brownfield Opportunity Area. The report was prepared by Environmental Design & Research, Landscape Architecture and Engineering P.C. (EDR), a Syracuse-based firm. To identify priority properties, a series of site criteria were applied by EDR to represent preliminary objective measures by which the feasibility of development at particular sides may be assessed. Each criterion is assigned a value according to its likely impact on development feasibility; positive values indicate criteria of (increasingly) greater significance, or those that make market-rate private sector development more likely. Negative values indicate criteria that make market-rate private sector development less likely (i.e. severe contamination). Examples of these criteria include: current zoning, ownership, current site use, site infrastructure, site size, assemblage potential, and known or suspected environmental hazards, each with various descriptions.
- (c) Site access: Sites that are owned by the City of Syracuse will agree to an easement that allows agreed upon parties to access the site for purposes of assessment and cleanup through SOCPA. Some of the sites are currently owned by OCIDA or the City, and in some cases the City has been in communication with owners regarding the potential use of Brownfield funds on their sites. We have already met with owners of sites that are not under OCIDA ownership, and they understand and are interested in participating in the assessment program.

#### b. Task Descriptions and Budget Table

i. Task Descriptions

<u>Task 1 Community Outreach</u>: OCIDA will implement a Citizen's Participation Plan to keep area citizens and local governmental officials informed about planned and completed activities at the sites. The community outreach will include distribution of fact sheets, website postings, establishment of a document repository, notifications to local media outlets and governmental officials, and public meetings at key points. It will be particularly important to seek public input in evaluating potential re-use options for the property. <u>The cost breakdown is as follows:</u> 200 (Staff Hours) x \$100/hour = \$20,000 (In-Kind) + \$7,000 (Fringe) + \$3,000 (Supplies) + \$10,000 (Consulting Fees) = \$40,000 divided between Hazardous Substance & Petroleum.

<u>Task 2 Preliminary Site Assessment:</u> The second phase of the project will be to identify suitable hazardous waste and/or petroleum sites in the County that are candidates for further assessment. The initial phase of this task will be to solicit input from the community at large. It is anticipated that OCIDA will advertise and conduct a public meeting to gather suggestions from the community. In addition, organized community groups and local politicians will also be specifically contacted to nominate potential brownfield sites.

Once a slate of sites is established, OCIDA staff and their engineering consultant will evaluate the sites and identify up to five that will be considered for future evaluation. The recommendations will be presented at a public OCIDA board meeting so that additional comments and input can be presented and considered prior to selection of the most viable sites.

For purposes of this Assessment Grant, it is assumed that ASTM Phase I Environmental Assessments will ultimately be performed on five sites. These assessments will be conducted by an environmental engineering consultant firm, selected by OCIDA through a formalized bidding process.

At the conclusion of the Phase I ESA process, OCIDA staff, with the assistance of its engineering consultant firm, will select two sites to perform an ASTM Phase II Assessment. The purpose of the Phase II Assessment will be to collect preliminary environmental samples. This will provide additional information that could not be obtained by site "walkovers" or research of existing environmental records. The Phase II Assessment at each site is anticipated to include 5-8 soil borings, three groundwater monitoring wells, and the collection of 10-20 environmental samples, depending upon site-specific characteristics.

Based on the results of the Phase II Assessment, the OCIDA board will select one site for further remedial investigation and engineering analysis. The site selection will be made at a public meeting where input from the community can be obtained.

<u>The cost breakdown is as follows:</u> 500 (Consultant Hours) x \$105/hour = \$52,500 + \$20,000 (Drilling and Lab Fees) + \$15,000 (In Kind) + \$5,000 (Fringe) = **\$92,500 divided between Hazardous Substance & Petroleum.** 

<u>Task 3 Remedial Investigation:</u> A remedial Investigation is proposed to be performed at the final site selected at the end of Task 2. Task 3 will include completing the Remedial Site Investigation activities, including preparation of the Remedial Investigation Work Plan (RIWP). Remedial investigation efforts will focus on determining the lateral extent of soil impacts, groundwater contamination, and vapor intrusion potential. Community air monitoring will also be performed during invasive activities, such as drilling and test pitting. Subtasks within the Remedial Investigation will include soil borings, test pits, soil sampling,

monitoring well installation, depth to water measurements, groundwater sampling, soil vapor sampling, preparation of a Remedial Investigation Report (RIR) containing findings and conclusions. <u>The cost breakdown is as follows:</u> 500 (Consultant Hours) x \$100/hour = \$50,000 + \$25,000 (Drilling and Lab Fees) = **\$75,000 divided between Hazardous Substance & Petroleum.** 

<u>Task 4 Remedial Selection:</u> After completion of the Remedial Investigation, OCIDA and its consultants will work with NYSDEC and the community to develop a cleanup remedy for the site. Various alternatives for remediation will be evaluated based upon the results of the site investigation and potential future re-use alternatives. Potential re-use scenarios will likely include recreational, commercial, and industrial development. Final remedy selection will consider the soil cleanup objectives established in NYSDEC regulations, type of future use, and the establishment of environmental easements at the site (if needed). Specific Task 3 activities will include conduct remedy scoping meeting(s), preparation of a Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) and Alternative Analysis Report (AAR), preparation of a detailed site map to be used for remedial design and construction, selection of a Remedial Action Based on future use considerations and community input, public notice of RAWP/AAR.

<u>The cost breakdown is as follows:</u> 500 (Consultant Hours) x \$100/hour = **\$50,000 divided between Hazardous Substance & Petroleum.** 

<u>Task 5 OCIDA Project Management:</u> OCIDA staff will be closely involved in selecting environmental engineering contractors to assist in the remedial assessment of the site. Activities will include RFP development, bid review, and contractor selection. In addition, OCIDA staff will also work closely with NYSDEC personnel to ensure that technical work activities are completed to the satisfaction of the regulatory requirements.

OCIDA will also provide regular status reports to EPA and NYSDEC. In addition, funds are requested to provide further training to OCIDA staff on topics that are relevant to Brownfield Cleanup Sites and the unique challenges associated with redevelopment.

<u>The cost breakdown is as follows:</u> 240 (Staff Hours) x \$125/hour = \$30,000 + \$10,000 (Fringe) = \$40,000 (In Kind) + \$2,250 (Travel) + \$250 (Supplies) = **\$42,500 divided between Hazardous Substance & Petroleum.** 

#### ii. Budget Table

Budget Categories – Petroleum	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	Total
Personnel	\$6,667			\$5,000	\$10,000	\$21,667
Fringe Benefits	\$2,333			\$1,667	\$3,333	\$7,333
Travel					\$750	\$750
Supplies	\$1,000				\$83	\$1,083
Contractual (Engineering Consulting)	\$3,333	\$16,667	\$16,667	\$17,500		\$54,167
Drilling and Lab Fees		\$8,333		\$6,667		\$15,000
TOTAL BUDGET	\$13,333	\$25,000	\$16,667	\$30,833	\$14,167	\$100,000

Budget Categories – Hazardous Substances	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	Task 5	Total
Personnel	\$13,333			\$10,000	\$20,000	\$43,333
Fringe Benefits	\$4,667			\$3,333	\$6,667	\$14,667
Travel					\$1,500	\$1,500
Supplies	\$2,000				\$167	\$2,167
Contractual (Engineering Consulting)	\$6,667	\$33,333	\$33,333	\$35,000		\$108,333
Drilling and Lab Fees		\$16,667		\$13,333		\$30,000
TOTAL BUDGET	\$26,667	\$50,000	\$33,333	\$61,667	\$28,333	\$200,000

#### c. Ability to Leverage

If additional work (e.g. assessment or cleanup/reuse planning) is required to complete tasks identified above, OCIDA is able to create Payment in Lieu of taxes (PILOT) agreements, and will leverage these funds to complete the assessment and eventual cleanup work at the selected brownfields. In-kind support will be leveraged for Task 1: Community Outreach and Task 4: OCIDA Project Management. Additional

funding sources may come from the Syracuse Industrial Development Agency, NYSDEC Brownfield Cleanup Program, Centerstate Corporation for Economic Opportunity, and EPA Region 2 Targeted Brownfields Assessment Program (TBA). Possible cleanup funding sources include EPA cleanup grants, etc. Depending on the end use, redevelopment funds can be sourced through NYS Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) Consolidated Funding, National Grid Shovel Ready, and NYSDEC Hazardous Waste Grants. While these funds are not yet committed to any one project, OCIDA and the City have a track record of leveraging these funds. One example is the National Grid Marketing Grant for Clean Energy that OCIDA managed in 2015, and the Community Development Block Grant managed by the City of Syracuse.

#### 3. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

## a. Engaging the Community

#### i. Community Involvement Plan

A public outreach coordinator will be assigned to oversee community engagement activities. The entire city and the target neighborhood organizations have been involved in discussion of blight, the proposed redevelopment and cleanup planning for **Target Area** sites through public comment periods and surveys through various community groups including FOCUS Greater Syracuse, the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board, and Onondaga Citizen's League.

We will continue to engage neighborhood and greater Syracuse community organizations in the planning, site selection and prioritization process of the assessment grant through public meetings and workshops to show them how a cleanup is performed and how they can play a role in determining an end use for the sites. We will keep them informed of the assessment process, any health concerns associated with these activities and the results. Once the assessment is complete, and health hazards are mitigated, we will allow community groups to gather volunteers to complete tree/native vegetation plantings, and build educational signs depicting history of the lake, cleanup efforts, and wildlife information. We will also begin additional assessment, remediation, and redevelopment outreach to any property owners and to the community.

A number of community groups, mentioned below, will be involved in participating in the assessment and future cleanup of the sites.

# ii. Communicating Progress

- The public outreach coordinator will be responsible for contacting community organizations with updates and information to spread out into the community. The coordinator will also be available for the public to email and call with questions. Open lines of communication between the County and the public during the cleanup will be crucial during this period. We will employ a variety of measures to keep the community aware on the assessment and future cleanup activities on the Site.
- ➤ We will report progress on our milestones to USEPA, NYSDEC and NYSDOH, and disseminate the information to the community through the press, flyers, radio, etc., and will translate the content to languages such as Mandarin, Bhutanese, Spanish, Chinese, etc. These methods have proven most effective in other redevelopment and remediation activities in the City.
- We will provide updates regarding the stages of the assessment and cleanup of all sites selected. For each completed milestone, we will update the public and accept feedback on the community's perceptions, questions, and concerns of progress we make.
- ➤ We will attend public meetings held by the community organizations discussed in 3.a.iii. to inform them of progress, setbacks, ideas for future use, and allow them to provide their own feedback on

- the process. The internet will also be used as an outreach platform, since so many citizens have cellphones and computers, and may not be able to attend meetings.
- We will host workshops in the South and Near-west side communities over the duration of the grant to record any concerns the community may have. Informational updates will be provided at said meetings, as well as online.

Community organizations mentioned below hold regular public meetings. These are the most appropriate and effective mans to inform communities near the sites of the coming assessment and revitalization. The County will record the discussion and ideas generated, and weave them into future planning for the sites. At each meeting, updates on the cleanup will be revealed and discussed with the public. Any health hazards that may arise during the cleanup will be brought to the public's attention and precautionary measures will be described. We do not anticipate there being any major health concerns, or community disruption during the duration of assessment activities.

#### b. Partnerships with Government Agencies

## i. <u>Local Environmental Authority</u>

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) works to conserve, improve and protect New York's natural resources and environment and to prevent, abate and control water, land, and air pollution, in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare or the people of the state and their overall economic and social well-being. NYDEC manages a statewide Brownfield Cleanup Program and regulations. NYSDEC will approve on all assessment and cleanup work plans for the sites, as well as oversee administration of proposed assessment procedures.

The Onondaga County Department of Health (DoH) works to protect and improve the health of all Onondaga County residents. For this project, the DoH will provide environmental health reports and research on the sites; provide direct outreach to all Onondaga County residents regarding the assessment for the sites, and serve as a point of contact for citizens concerned about the contamination.

#### ii. Other Governmental Partnerships

The New York State Department of Health protects, improves, and promotes the health, productivity and well-being of all New Yorkers. They will assist with public notifications on any potential health hazards during cleanup, or hazards for construction workers. We will contact the NYSDOH to ensure statewide health regulations are addressed during the assessment and cleanup procedures, and if any health concern/risk is exposed during the project, we will contact the department to send out a public.

The New York State Department of Labor protects workers, assists the unemployed, and connects job seekers to jobs. We will submit work plans to the NYSDOL to allow access to the drum area, and other hazardous areas, by trained and certified asbestos workers. The New York State Department of State is a principal resource for New York local governments seeking training and technical assistance. We will refer to NYSDOS for help on administrative codes and planning.

Other relevant federal, state, and local governmental agencies: OCIDA will work with EPA on the Grant. The EPA Project Officer and Quality Assurance staff will be integral to ensure that the work is done appropriately. In addition, OCIDA will work with the Syracuse-Onondaga Planning Agency, and the Central New York Regional Development and Planning Board (CNYRPDB) on this project. CNYRPDB is our regional planning commission with extensive EPA funded Brownfields experience and will support OCIDA

in a number of ways. They are retained to assist with the management of the grant to ensure compliance with all requirements, serve on the Brownfields Advisory Committee, and also assist OCIDA to find additional fund leveraging to complete the project.

# a. Partnerships with Community Organizations

Organization Name	Description	Possible Role
Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse (ACTS)	A grassroots interfaith network advocating for social justice. ACTS is a voice striving for a more just and fair community that improves the quality of life for all.	Create a brownfields task force to address communities with the <b>Target Area</b> .
Centerstate Corporation for Economic Opportunity	Attracts businesses and promotes economic growth within the City. The Syracuse-Onondaga chamber of commerce.	CCEO will participate in redevelopment planning and outreach activities related to such.
Forging Our Community's United Strength (FOCUS) Greater Syracuse	A community-wide visioning program created with the goal of making Syracuse a better place to live and work started by a ground of Leadership Greater Syracuse graduates and interested residents. The program is loosely modeled after several visioning projects around the country, and came out of the desire to determine a course of action and growth for Syracuse.	Use of surveys to understand the public's vision for the former Roth Steel site, public outreach and planning coordination.
Interfaith Works	Through education, service and dialogue, affirms the dignity of each person and every faith community and works to create relationships and understanding among all people of Central New York.	Outreach to immigrant family populations in the South and Nearwest Side communities.
Northside Urban Partnership	Seeks to radically improve the quality of life on the Northside of Syracuse by convening citizens, organizations, businesses and institutions to identify common interests and work towards tangible outcomes.	Public outreach and project updates at public meetings.
Onondaga Citizen's League	An organization that is open to all citizens that is able to look at any issue that affects the community's economic health and quality of life. OCL seeks to advance its study recommendations, working with other groups toward implementation. OCL study reports spur community conversations and influence public policy considerations.	Research into future use of site, how to protect wildlife on the site but allow recreational access, how to develop signs that highlight the history of the lake.
Onondaga Earth Corps	An organization driven to empower youth to be active participants in creating positive change for their communities and the environment.	Planting of trees and vegetation along the cleaned property; habitat creation.
Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps	An organization of volunteers that contributes to restoration projects that create and improve wildlife habitat in the Onondaga Lake Watershed. The Corps inspires future stewards of Onondaga Lake and its watershed through a hands-on, experience-based program that offers citizens and organizations the opportunity to participate in activities that help restore and sustain Onondaga Lake and its value as an Important Bird Area.	They will assist with habitat restoration, and public outreach through volunteerism.
Syracuse United Neighbors (SUN)	A grassroots community organization established in 1977 and dedicated to improving the lives of families living in the neighborhoods on the south, southwest, and near-west sides of Syracuse.	Community outreach through monthly public meetings held in the south, southeast, and near-west sides of the City of Syracuse.

i. <u>Letters of Commitment</u>

Letters of commitment affirming participation of each partner are found in the attachment 'Support Letters.'

# b. Partnerships with Workforce Development Programs

We will work with Onondaga Earth Corps to involve local members of the South and Near-West side communities to volunteer at the identified Brownfield Sites to perform post-assessment, post-cleanup activities including tree planting, site design, and construction. OEC engages youth and young adults in poor urban communities within the City of Syracuse to learn and become invested in environmental career tracks. Through investment in the local community for jobs centered on the Brownfield sites, these citizens will begin to see themselves as catalysts of change for the City of Syracuse and promote a positive view of the future of our urban community.

#### 4. PROJECT BENEFITS

# a. Welfare, Environmental, and Public Health Benefits

The project will mitigate the following impacts from the sites:

- Induce the redevelopment of vacant buildings on the sites and surrounding neighborhoods.
- Reduce crime through the securing of the sites and development of either commercial or park venues with adequate public safety measures (lighting, payphones, trails, etc.)
- Increase the access of park area for residents in the Near-West and Southside neighborhoods
- Increase sustainable transportation between various parts of the City through a Trail Extension over the sites
- Mitigate odor, stormwater runoff, traffic from garage on sites, and spill pollution
- Mitigate health consequences of PCB, VOC, SVOC, and heavy metal exposure.
- Increase taxable property by providing a space for developer purchase.
- Improve health outcomes for children by reducing the incidence of lead poisoning, asbestos exposure, improving access to food, and increasing areas for recreation.
- > Decrease exposure to PCBs, VOCs, and heavy metals, such as lead and mercury.
- > Decrease areas where vagrant populations may to go use drugs or abuse alcohol.

#### b. Economic and Community Benefits

- The redevelopment of the sites will reduce burden on the following city services: Syracuse City Police Department and the Syracuse Fire Department—these agencies will no longer have to worry about vagrant populations at the sites, or illegal activities near existing contamination once the sites are assessed and cleaned.
- The redevelopment of the sites will potentially increase recreation space, which will bring more visitors and residents of the City to the lakeshore, providing a public benefit and open recreation area to connect to the Onondaga Lake Trailway System.
- ➤ The redevelopment of the sites will potentially increase commercial/industrial space, by 20-40 acres total, which is estimated to increase tax revenue (property, tax, business license, etc.) by \$6,868/year, based on the estimated square footage allowed on these sites under current zoning.
- The redevelopment of the Site has the potential of providing 20-40 jobs per acre, helping to reduce the unemployment and poverty rate, and potentially increase business and payroll taxes, and other revenue.
- Increase taxable property by providing a space for developer purchase.
- Decrease tax delinquent property through seizure and remediation of abandoned sites.
- Decrease barriers to business and commercial development, therefore increasing jobs for local residents.

# 5. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE

#### a. Audit Findings

OCIDA affirms it has not received any adverse audit findings.

b. Programmatic Capability Julie Cerio is the Director of Economic Development for OCIDA and will oversee the management by OCIDA of this assessment grant. Ms. Cerio has appointed Isabelle Harris to take the lead on the Roth Steel Property and work with the selected contractor to fulfill this assessment grant. Isabelle Harris, Economic Development Specialist for OCIDA will oversee the assessment work of consultants, headed by John Ciampa, Director of Environmental Remediation and Geophysical Services for Spectra Environmental, Inc. OCIDA selected Spectra through an EPA-approved Request for Proposals process, and together prepared a work plan for the Site. Ms. Harris is a highly qualified economic development specialist with 10+ years of experience in communications and economic development for state and county government. She has worked as the Director of Intergovernmental Relations and the District Director for New York State Senator John A. DeFrancisco. Prior to her work in the Senator's Office, Ms. Harris worked as the Research and Communications Officer for Onondaga County Executive Joanne M. Mahoney. Mr. Ciampa brings considerable project management experience having worked for 38 years as a professional environmental scientist specializing in hydrogeology and geophysical applications.

Mr. Ciampa has extensive project management and professional experience serving both the public and private sectors. He has worked on a diverse range of environmental and geologic projects including hazardous waste remediation, hydrogeologic assessments, site evaluations, regulatory development, environmental permitting, and preparation of expert testimony. He has experience applying for and working within Superfund and Brownfields programs, and completing Site Characterization Plans, Remedial Investigations, Feasibility Studies, Alternatives Analysis Studies, and preparation of Remedial Action Work Plans.

Additional project support will be provided by: Yaicha Winters, a geologist for Spectra whose related project experience includes Phase II Environmental Site Assessment and Remedial Investigation Work Plans, Environmental Services, and Article VII Application for a New 1000 MW Electrical Transmission Line; Frank Peduto, a former NYSDEC employee and current environmental engineer for Spectra whose responsibilities as a Senior Environmental Engineer include certification of Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plans, Brownfields Coordinator, Solid Waste Permitting, Petroleum Bulk Audits and Compliance, and Petroleum and Hazardous Waste Investigation and Remediation; and Joseph Krikorian, an environmental scientist for Spectra who has experience performing vapor intrusion studies and soil, water sampling, overseeing Membrane Interface Probe (MIP) investigation and geoprobe investigations, and developing Site Characterization (SC) Work Plans and Remedial Work (RW) Plans.

Administrative support and management will be provided by Travis Glazier, Director of the Onondaga County Office of Environment and Holly Granat, Project Coordinator for the Onondaga County Office of Environment. Mr. Glazier and Ms. Granat will assist Ms. Harris in the management of the grant activities and communication with Spectra. Mr. Ciampa will be the direct contact for Spectra, and the additional project support provided by Ms. Winters, Mr. Peduto, and Mr. Krikorian will fall under Mr. Ciampa's direction.

#### c. Measuring Environmental Results: Anticipated Outputs and Outcomes

The outputs we anticipate are: the acreage of the sites proposed for trail/park purposes versus commercial/business purposed, the funding leveraged for the sites, the acreage of green space created, whether the project limits negative exposure of contaminants found at the sites, among other things.

Detailed documentation of the sites' investigative activities will be maintained during the field activities. Reporting, including ACRES, will include discussions of findings and submission of a final written report, including all laboratory documentation to NYSDEC.

Anticipated outcomes for this project will be the initial determination of the severity of contamination at the sites. After this assessment, OCIDA will better understand the steps necessary to fully clean these Brownfield Sites to be reintroduced for public use. These sites will increase Onondaga County Parks land by approximately 25% and provide residents of the Near-West and South Side communities' lakefront recreational sites. We recognize that this assessment grant will not cover the entirety of expenses at the selected sites; however, these funds will be a major first step in the reclamation of this land that does not currently have a pathway to assessment and cleanup.

#### d. Past Performance and Accomplishments

- ii. OCIDA has not received an EPA Brownfields Grant but has received other federal or non-federal assistance agreements.
- (1) OCIDA received a **National Grid Marketing Grant** in 2016 for \$40,000.

<u>Purpose and Accomplishments:</u> The purpose of this grant is to support target industry analysis for business attraction marketing and sales purposes, support outreach initiatives towards industry trade groups, support the creation and distribution of industry-specific publications, profiles and studies, support early stage planning or feasibility studies that prepare assets to be marketed, such as economic development "mega sites," industrial parks, multi-use facilities and support for efforts to attract major tourism destination facilities including infrastructure assistance. Through this grant, OCIDA provided marketing outreach support to Air Innovations, Bitzer Scroll, Carrier, and O'Brien & Gere to promote clean energy upgrades and utility infrastructure to accommodate their expansion and provide 2 years of electric service demand charge discounts. Measures of success were noted as the expansion and ability to accomplish energy savings over the duration of the grant, which OCIDA fulfilled.

Compliance with Grant Requirements: OCIDA performed as a regional economic development agency and promoted clean energy savings and updated utility infrastructure to enhance the competitiveness of Upstate New York through financial offsets by assisting these companies expand their businesses to a tax-free zone in NYS. OCIDA also provided PILOT agreements between these companies and their appropriate payment-plan agency to ensure completion of the proposed projects. For OCIDA projects, this produces an average net abatement of approximately 55% over a ten-year period.

(2) OCIDA received a NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Grant in 2017 for \$682,673. This grant has not been executed yet, but must be used by OCIDA for one or more of the following: acquisition of land, buildings, machinery, and/or equipment; demolition and environmental remediation; new construction, renovation or leasehold improvements; acquisition of furniture and fixtures; soft costs of up to 25% of total project costs; and planning and feasibility studies related to a specific capital project or site. OCIDA will likely utilize this grant to acquire brownfield sites and work on securing an environmental engineering firm to perform necessary assessment and cleanup procedures to prepare the sites for redevelopment.

Additionally, PILOT agreements are an effective means by which OCIDA is able to facilitate the redevelopment of vacant or contaminated property within Onondaga County. Since 2015, OCIDA has entered into 11 PILOT agreements which have a total project investment of over \$630,000,000, many of which have returned contaminated properties back into productive use.

# Regional Priorities Form/Other Factors Checklist

Name of Applicant: Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency

Regional Priority Title(s):

Assistance to Communities That Have Limited In-House Capacity to Manage Brownfields Projects OR Climate Change Resiliency

Page Number(s): <u>Limited In-House Capacity: 1,2, 4, 6, 10, 13 (OCIDA and Spectra already work with DEC on this site under the Brownfield Cleanup Program); Climate Change Resiliency: pg.2 (stormwater runoff from this site is contaminated; revitalized shoreline will increase storm event resilience; pg 6, the existing CSX railroad will be reused and green space will fill in between the lakeshore and railroad. To match goals in the County's Climate Action Plan and Sustainable Development Plan, any additional trail infrastructure will be built with porous pavement under the County's Save the Rain program to preserve stormwater and divert stormwater runoff from getting into Onondaga Lake from this site.</u>

#### **Assessment Other Factors Checklist**

Other Factor	Page #
None of the Other Factors are applicable.	· ·
Community population is 10,000 or less	2 (in demographic table)
Applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or United States territory.	
Targeted brownfield sites are impacts by minescarred land.	
Project is primarily focused on Phase II assessments.	8
Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the proposal and have included documentation.	
Recent (2008 or later) significant economic disruption has occurred within community, resulting in a significant percentage loss of community jobs and tax base.	
Applicant is one of the 24 recipients, or a core partner/implementation strategy party, of a "manufacturing community" designation provided by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) under the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP). To be considered, applicants must clearly demonstrate in the proposal the nexus between their IMCP designation and the Brownfield activities. Additionally, applicants must attach documentation which demonstrate either designation as one of the 24 recipients, or relevant pages from a recipient's IMCP proposal which lists/describes the core partners and implementation	

strategy parties.	
Applicant is a recipient or a core partner of HUD-	
DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities	
(PSC) grant funding or technical assistance that is	
directly tied to the proposed Brownfields project,	
and can demonstrate that funding from a PSC	
grant/technical assistance has or will benefit the	
project area. Examples of PSC grant or technical	
assistance include a HUD Regional Planning or	
Challenge grant, DOT Transportation Investment	
Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), or EPA	
Smart Growth Implementation or Building Blocks	
Assistance, etc. To be considered, applicant must	
attach documentation.	
Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-	
Wide Planning grant.	

#### NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Environmental Remediation, Bureau of Program Management 625 Broadway, 12th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-7012 P: (518) 402-9764 I F: (518) 402-9722 www.dec.ny.gov

NOV 15 2016

Ms. Isabelle Harris Economic Development Specialist Onondaga County Office of Economic Development 333 W. Washington Street, Suite 130 Syracuse, NY 13202

Dear Ms. Harris:

This is to acknowledge that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (Department) received a request from your consultant, Spectra Environmental Group, Inc., dated November 14, 2016, for a state acknowledgement letter for United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Brownfield grants.

I understand that the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency is applying for two grants; \$200,000 for hazardous substance assessment for the Former Roth Steel Site, and \$300,000 for Community-wide combined hazardous substance and petroleum assessment.

The Department encourages initiatives to redevelop brownfields with the goal of mitigating any environmental and health impacts that they might pose.

Sincerely,

Laura Zeppetelli

Director

Bureau of Program Management

ec: T. Wesley, USEPA Region 2 W. Daigle/H. Warner/R. Brazell

NEW YORK
STATE OF POPULINITY

Department of Environmental Conservation

1123 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225–3701

> 440 SOUTH WARREN STREET 7TH FLOOR, SUITE 711 SYRACUSE, NY 13202 (315) 423-5657

http://katko.house.gov



HOUSE TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

HOUSE HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION SECURITY CHAIRMAN

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

December 9, 2016

Lya Theodoratos Brownfields Representative EPA Region 2 290 Broadway, 18th Floor New York, NY 10007 Phone 212-637-3260

Re: Letter of Support - Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency

Dear Ms. Theodoratos,

I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA) for funding through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2017 Brownfields Assessment Grant program.

The Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA) is specifically requesting \$200,000 in funding over three years through the Brownfields Assessment Grant program to conduct a remediation assessment of a property that formerly contained a scrap metal recycling facility in Syracuse, New York. OCIDA purchased the former Roth Steel property in October 2015 and has developed an Interim and Revised Remedial Measure work plan to begin the process of developing a procedure for addressing contaminants throughout the property. As outlined in its application, OCIDA will partner with a wide range of community and neighborhood groups for direct assistance and community engagement during the assessment and remediation process.

The remediation of this property will benefit the Southside and Near Westside neighborhoods of the City of Syracuse by providing safe access to the southern shores of Onondaga Lake and assist in efforts to complete Onondaga County's "Loop the Lake" trail. I commend OCIDA and its community partners for its efforts to revitalize low-income neighborhoods in the City of Syracuse and provide safe access to recreational opportunities for residents and visitors.

I am pleased to offer my support for the application submitted by the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency and ask that you give it your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

John Katko

Member of Congress (NY-24)

ALBANY OFFICE 416 CAPITOL ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247 PHONE 518-455-3511 E-MAIL

jdefranc@nysenate.gov

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



DISTRICT OFFICE STATE OFFICE BUILDING - ROOM 800 333 EAST WASHINGTON STREET SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13202

PHONE 315-428-7632
WEBSITE

defrancisco nysenate.gov

# SENATOR JOHN A. DeFRANCISCO DEPUTY MAIORITY LEADER

Lya Theodoratos EPA Region 2 Brownfields Representative 290 Broadway, 18th Floor New York, NY 10007 Phone 212-637-3260

#### Dear Ms. Theodoratos:

This letter is written in support of the application submitted by the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2017 Brownfields Assessment Grant for clean-up of the Roth Steel property located on Hiawatha Boulevard in Syracuse NY.

Roth Steel is located on the southern shore of Onondaga Lake and has a long history of pollution from its decades as a scrap metal recycling facility. It was purchased in bankruptcy by OCIDA in October 2015. Since that time, OCIDA has been working extensively with local engineers to perform necessary assessment and cleanup activities at the site. Part of the assessment has included the creation of an Interim and Revised Interim Remedial Measure Work Plan. This will be used to develop a procedure for addressing contaminants throughout the property.

The clean-up of the site will not only benefit the Roth property itself, but it will have a positive effect on the community in general. The southern end of Onondaga Lake is the last area in need of remediation around the lake. By cleaning up the Roth property, it will assist with the revitalization of the City of Syracuse, specifically the Near West and Southside neighborhoods, which are located near the site and are home to some of the City's poorest communities. Once the site is remediated, these communities will have direct access to the shores of Onondaga Lake.

To ensure success, this project will require the direct involvement of community groups, such as FOCUS Greater Syracuse, the Onondaga Citizens League, Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps, Onondaga Earth Corps, and Syracuse Urban Neighbors, in supporting OCIDA throughout this cleanup process. The funding received from the EPA

Brownfields Assessment Grant will allow OCIDA to address and dispose of the contaminants on the site to the level necessary.

The overall goal of the proposed project is to clean up the former Roth Steel brownfield to provide safe access to the lakeshore, and continue efforts to connect the County's Loop the Lake trail for the benefit of all the residents of Onondaga County and its visitors.

Once again, as the New York State Senator representing the 50<sup>th</sup> Senate District, I support the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency's application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2017 Brownfields Assessment Grant for clean-up of the Roth Steel property.

Very truly yours,

John A. DeFrancisco

State Senator



# THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY

CHAIR Local Governments

COMMITTEES

Economic Development, Job Creation, Commerce and Industry

Education Rules

Oversight, Analysis & Investigation Steering

December 6, 2016

Ms. Lya Theodoratos Brownfield Representative United States EPA, Region 2 290 Broadway, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10007

Dear Ms. Theodoratos:

I am writing in support of the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency's (OCIDA) application for a 2017 Brownfields Assessment Grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). OCIDA proposes to use these funds to assist in the clean-up of the former Roth Steel property located on Hiawatha Boulevard in Syracuse, NY.

Roth Steel is a former scrap yard located on the southern shore of Onondaga Lake. The site has a long history of environmental contamination. It was purchased in bankruptcy by OCIDA in October 2015. Since then, OCIDA has been working with local engineers to perform assessment and cleanup work at the site. Their assessments included the creation of an Interim and Revised Remedial Measure Work Plan to develop a procedure for addressing contaminants throughout the property. The funding received from the grant will be used to address and dispose of contaminants throughout the site.

The clean-up of Roth Steel is a priority for Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse. Its remediation will have a positive effect on the community in general. Once the most polluted lake in the country, Onondaga Lake has undergone substantial environmental clean-up in recent years, and the southern end is the last area in need of remediation. This project will further assist economic development efforts in Syracuse, specifically in the Near-West and Southside neighborhoods. Once finished, these neighborhoods will have direct access to the lakefront.

As part of the effort, OCIDA is partnering with several community organizations to support the project. These groups include: FOCUS Greater Syracuse, the Onondaga Citizen League, the Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps and Syracuse United Neighbors. The overall goal is to complete the remediation of Onondaga Lake and restore the lake for recreational use to benefit all residents of the County.

Again, I fully support OCIDA's application for a 2017 EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant. Remediating the former Roth Steel site will continue the revitalization of Onondaga Lake and provide needed economic benefits for the City of Syracuse. I respectfully request that you give their application a full and fair consideration. Please feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Very truly yours,

William B. Magnarelli Member, NYS Assembly

129<sup>th</sup> District

WBM/cms



December 7, 2016

Ms. Isabelle Harris

**OCIDA** 

333 W. Washington Street, Ste 130

Syracuse, NY 13202

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** 

Don Radke, President

William Brod

Carrie Carapella

Sean Daughton

Daniel Feng

Robert Haley

Suzann Hensley

Michael LaMontagne

Andrea Latchem

Kevin Magdon

Marissa Mims

Rita Reicher

**David Rogers** 

Amy Rood

Rosie Taravella

Mary M. Thompson

**Barry Weiss** 

**EMERITUS** 

Lucille Browning

Michael LaFlair

Andrew Maxwell

Judith C. Mower

George Puzey

William Sanford

Nancy H. Smith

STAFF

Charlotte "Chuckie" Holstein

Dee Klees

Frank Moses

Dear Ms. Harris:

We are truly happy to write a letter of support to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the OCIDA proposal to improve the former Roth Steel property on the shoreline of Onondaga Lake. The support from EPA would enhance the findings from the F.O.C.U.S. citizen

studies on how citizens would like to reconnect with Onondaga Lake.

In December 2012, F.O.C.U.S. completed a citizens' report on what the citizens wanted to see on the shoreline of Onondaga Lake. It included a review and analysis of 84 years of reports, first one completed in 1928. Over 1,100 surveys were submitted and over 100 interviews

completed.

The "F.O.C.U.S. on Onondaga Lake" report was submitted to County Executive Mahoney and widely distributed throughout the community including government officials, businesses, non-profit organizations, academic institutions, and ordinary citizens. The basic recommendations were to keep the shoreline of the lake "public" and complete the Loop the Lake Trail. The Roth Steel property is one of the major deterrents to completing the trail and making the entire shoreline public. At this time, county government is committed to keeping the shoreline of the

Currently F.O.C.U.S. is again asking citizens what they envision for public use of Onondaga Lake Waters. A report will be submitted to the study sponsors and the community in May, 2017. The recently launched survey has already received almost 500 responses.

Now that Onondaga Lake is cleaner, there are more and more citizens hiking, bicycling, and wheeling around the shoreline while others are more frequently fishing or on the water. The clean-up of the Roth Steel property is an important enhancement necessary to truly make Onondaga Lake the people's lake. We strongly support the OCIDA proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the 2017 Brownfield Assessment Grant.

Sincerely,

Charlotte "Chuckie" Holstein

Dandolla (Concline) Hole Sin

Lake solely for public use.

**Executive Director** 

F.O.C.U.S. Greater Syracuse



December 13, 2016

Ms. Holly Granat Project Coordinator Onondaga County Office of Environment 421 Montgomery Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Flr. Syracuse, NY 13202

Dear Ms. Granat:

This letter is in support of the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency's grant proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the 2017 Brownfields Assessment Grant requesting \$200,000 for a period of three years. Administered by the Montezuma Audubon Center (MAC), the Corps was established in 2012 as an organization of community volunteers inspiring future stewards of Onondaga Lake through hands-on, experienced-based programs that help restore and sustain this important natural resource. Charter members of the Corps include Audubon NY, Montezuma Audubon Center, Onondaga Audubon Society, Anchor QEA, Honeywell, OBG and Parsons. Recently, Bond Schoeneck & King, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry and Habitat Gardening in CNY joined as community members. In 2015, the Corps proudly received the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Environmental Champion Award. This annual award recognizes those who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to protecting and enhancing environmental quality and public health and is the highest recognition presented to the public by the agency.

Onondaga Lake became one of America's most polluted lakes due to past municipal and industrial practices. As a result of the efforts of local, state, and federal governments, the private sector, and other stakeholders, the contamination to Onondaga Lake is being addressed and the ecosystem is being restored. It has been a remarkable recovery. These efforts include critical natural habitat restoration and improvement to water quality, resulting in the Lake being a vital community asset and enhancing the quality of life for all residents. For these efforts to remain sustainable into the future, sustained engagement and participation of residents is required. Through our work in the community, the MAC identified vested public concern and interest in the Lake cleanup, and interest in public participation in its stewardship. The Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps was created to fill this need by providing local residents the opportunity to directly help restore and sustain the Lake.

To date, Corps volunteers have planted more than 6,000 native plants, trees and shrubs, removed over 8,000 pounds of invasive water chestnut plants, built and installed 24 bird boxes and hosted several community outreach and environmental education events featuring birds and wildlife now thriving at Onondaga Lake. Corps volunteers span all ages, including retirees and families with children as young as five-years-old, participating in restoration and monitoring activities and nurturing a new generation of Onondaga Lake stewards.



The Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps is interested in partnering with the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency for the grant period. The proposed project will involve new community partners, to engage the public and various stakeholder groups in this cleanup process to revitalize the former Roth Steel Property so that it is safe for productive use and public recreation. A green space on this property will help improve the quality of habitat at Onondaga Lake for the dozens of bird species that utilize this Important Bird Area, including many threatened species like the Bald Eagle, Pied-billed Grebe, and Northern Harrier.

Please consider funding the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency's to help keep Onondaga Lake clean and healthy for birds, other wildlife and our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chris Lojewski

Sincerely,

Chris Lajewski

Program Director, Onondaga Lake Conservation Corps

Center Director, Montezuma Audubon Center



December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency Attn: Isabelle Harris 333 W. Washington St. Syracuse NY, 13202

RE: OCIDA FY 2017 Brownfields Assessment Grant Application

Dear Ms. Harris:

InterFaith Works writes on behalf of the Brownfields Assessment Grant application, and the desire to secure funding to clean up the shores of Onondaga Lake and increase public access to this newly revitalized natural resource. Our agency settles newly arrived refugees so that they can become New Americans and contribute to the workforce, family life, and civic life of our community. Many refugees come from rural areas where the love of land, water, and all outdoors is strong. They feel a kinship to the elements, and spend time walking in our city and county parks, for solace and healing as well as enjoyment. Having this new natural resource cleaned up and available for the people's use will be of benefit to our whole community.

Because there is a public engagement component of the grant, I would like to offer the opportunity for your organization to utilize our El-Hindi Center for Dialogue as a possible resource to design and lead dialogue circles on the project, as appropriate. We have many trained facilitators who can be of assistance.

All the best with this effort on behalf of the people of Central New York.

Sincerely, Beth

Beth A. Broadway President/CEO InterFaith Works of CNY 1010 James Street Syracuse, NY 13203

Phone: (315) 449-3552, ext. 116

Fax: (315) 449-3103



December 12, 2016

Holly Granat Project Coordinator Onondaga County Office of Environment 421 Montgomery Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant

Dear Ms. Granat,

I enthusiastically support OCIDA's application for the Brownfields Assessment Grant. OCIDA's plans to address the Roth Steel site on Hiawatha Blvd are critical to the overall vitality and health of our community. This site has the potential to be a wonderful community amenity – as well as a site for future economic development and job creation.

As the Vice President of Economic Inclusion at CenterState CEO, I oversee a portfolio of initiatives and projects, dedicated to creating opportunity and prosperity and improving quality of life for underrepresented communities throughout Central New York. Your efforts on this project are fully aligned with my efforts in the community as well. Among the initiatives within my portfolio is the Northside Urban Partnership (Northside UP), a collaborative of neighborhood leaders and stakeholders, developing and implementing strategies that improve quality of life within Northside neighborhoods. Should you wish to engage Northside stakeholders in your efforts related to this grant, we are more than willing to partner. Specifically, we are able to convene meetings for the purposes of planning and feedback.

I wish you the best of luck on your application.

Sincerely,

Dominic Robinson

The CenterState Corporation for Economic Opportunity

Vice President of Economic Inclusion

Domin Morinon

Director of the Northside Urban Partnership



December 12, 2016
Holly Granat, Project Coordinator
Onondaga County Office of Environment
421 Montgomery Street, Syracuse NY
Dear Ms. Granat

On behalf of Moving People Transportation Coalition, I am writing to express our support of the grant application to US EPA by OCIDA for a Brownfield assessment and eventual cleanup of property, 800 Hiawatha Blvd, formerly owned by Roth Steel.

Moving People is an umbrella for a diverse range of organizations seeking the revitalization of neighborhoods in the City of Syracuse and the Onondaga Lakeshore as essential elements in promoting a sustainable regional transportation system.

We view the prospects for a complete Loop the Lake trail system as important step in creating an environment friendly toward "Moving People" through a multi-model approach.

Sincerely yours, Peter F. Sarver

Peter Sarver ACTS Convener



# CENTERSTATE CORPORATION FOR ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

December 12, 2016

Ms. Holly Granat
Project Coordinator
Onondaga County Office of Environment
421 Montgomery Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor
Syracuse, New York 13202

Re: 2017 Brownfields Assessment Program OCIDA Application

Dear Ms. Granat:

The business leadership of the region, represented by CenterState CEO, is pleased to write in support of a proposal by the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA) to be submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the 2017 Brownfields Assessment Program.

It is our understanding that the grant will support an assessment, and eventual cleanup, of the former Roth Steel Property (800 Hiawatha Blvd) on the shores of Onondaga Lake. Successful implementation of this project will provide significant benefits to the community by:

- 1) Cleaning-up and restoring a highly visible and important site;
- 2) Providing safe public access to Onondaga Lake and its shoreline for the people of the City of Syracuse, including those residing in the Near West, Southside and North Side neighborhoods, which are home to some of the City's poorest communities; and,
- 3) Allowing for continued efforts to connect the County's Loop the Lake trail to the City's Creekwalk and to the western suburbs of Onondaga County

Significant efforts have already been dedicated to this project. This property was purchased from bankruptcy by OCIDA in October 2015 with the intent of returning it to a productive state that complements the revitalization of Onondaga Lake and its shoreline. In addition, OCIDA has been working with a local engineering firm to obtain necessary approvals from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYDEC) for cleanup of the property. In early 2015, the property was accepted into the NYDEC Brownfields Cleanup Program (BCP).

As referenced earlier, specific City neighborhoods and the overall Syracuse community will be directly served by this brownfield assessment grant. The project will involve community partners and the engagement of public and various stakeholder groups to ensure the safe and productive use of the former Roth Steel property. Partners will be selected based on their interest in the project, the level of outreach they are willing to contribute, and the role they wish to play in the cleanup process. CenterState CEO would be pleased to participate as an interested and engaged stakeholder.

Ms. Holly Granat Page 2 December 12, 2016

In summary, part of our organizational vision and mission is to support projects that enhance the prosperity and quality of life of the region. We believe this project will provide direct environmental benefits, encourage private sector investment and related economic development benefits in the immediate and surrounding neighborhoods, and offer public access and new recreational opportunities for the people of Syracuse and Onondaga County. CenterState CEO is pleased to offer its support and continued engagement working with OCIDA and other partners.

Sincerely,

Andrew Fish

Senior Vice President

Culu M. J.B

Cc: Isabelle Harris

#### 1. Applicant Eligibility

Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA) is applicable for this EPA Brownfields Grant under the General Purpose Unit of Local Government definition under 2 CFR 200.64: Local government means a county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority (including any public and Indian housing agency under the United States Housing Act of 1937), school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (whether or not incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under state law), any other regional or interstate government entity, or any agency or instrumentality of a local government. OCIDA is facet of county government.

#### 2. Community Involvement

As stated in Section 3.a.i. of our narrative proposal, we will engage neighborhood and greater Syracuse community organizations in the planning process of the assessment grant through public meetings and workshops to show them how a cleanup is performed and how they can play a role in determining an end use for the site. We want the community to understand and appreciate the future of the site once the assessment process is completed, and how it will better their community. Once the assessment is complete, and health hazards are mitigated, we will allow community groups to gather volunteers to complete tree/native vegetation plantings, and help build educational signs depicting history of the lake, cleanup efforts, and wildlife information.

We have identified a number of community groups, such as FOCUS Greater Syracuse, Syracuse United Neighbors, and the Onondaga Citizens League that we will reach out to involve in the assessment and future cleanup of the selected brownfield sites identified for opportunity within the City of Syracuse.

We will seek public comment in early 2017 to understand the possible end uses for the sites, and how residents would like these sites reincorporated into their community. Our aim is for residents to understand that their interests are vital to the redevelopment of these brownfield opportunity areas, and we need their input to create productive spaces for future generations, whether that includes business development or green space. Our long-term goal for public involvement is for community organizations to become involved in volunteer work to plant, build signs, and other beautification actions appropriate for the sites. Public input and volunteer efforts will help make the collective vision for Onondaga Lake, and the land surrounding it, become a reality.

From: Struble, John

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2016 4:33 PM

To: 'HollyGranat@ongov.net' <HollyGranat@ongov.net>

Subject: RE: EPA Brownfield Grant Application/ Petroleum Determination

Results (Preliminary)

Hello, Holly.

Please be advised, the preliminary review of the subject site that I performed can only be used to identify some potential problems with eligibility at this point in time. The preliminary review of this site did not show that the site is not an eligible brownfield. Where this is positive, the review does not guarantee a requestor that the site will be determined to be eligible, should it be reviewed by EPA as part of a grant-proposal review in the future. For example, the attorneys who review our grant proposals may find information, during the proposal review process, that is not currently available and this could potentially change whether or not the site is determined to be eligible by EPA at a later date. In other words, the site could appear to be O.K. now, which it does, but later, it could possibly not actually be eligible.

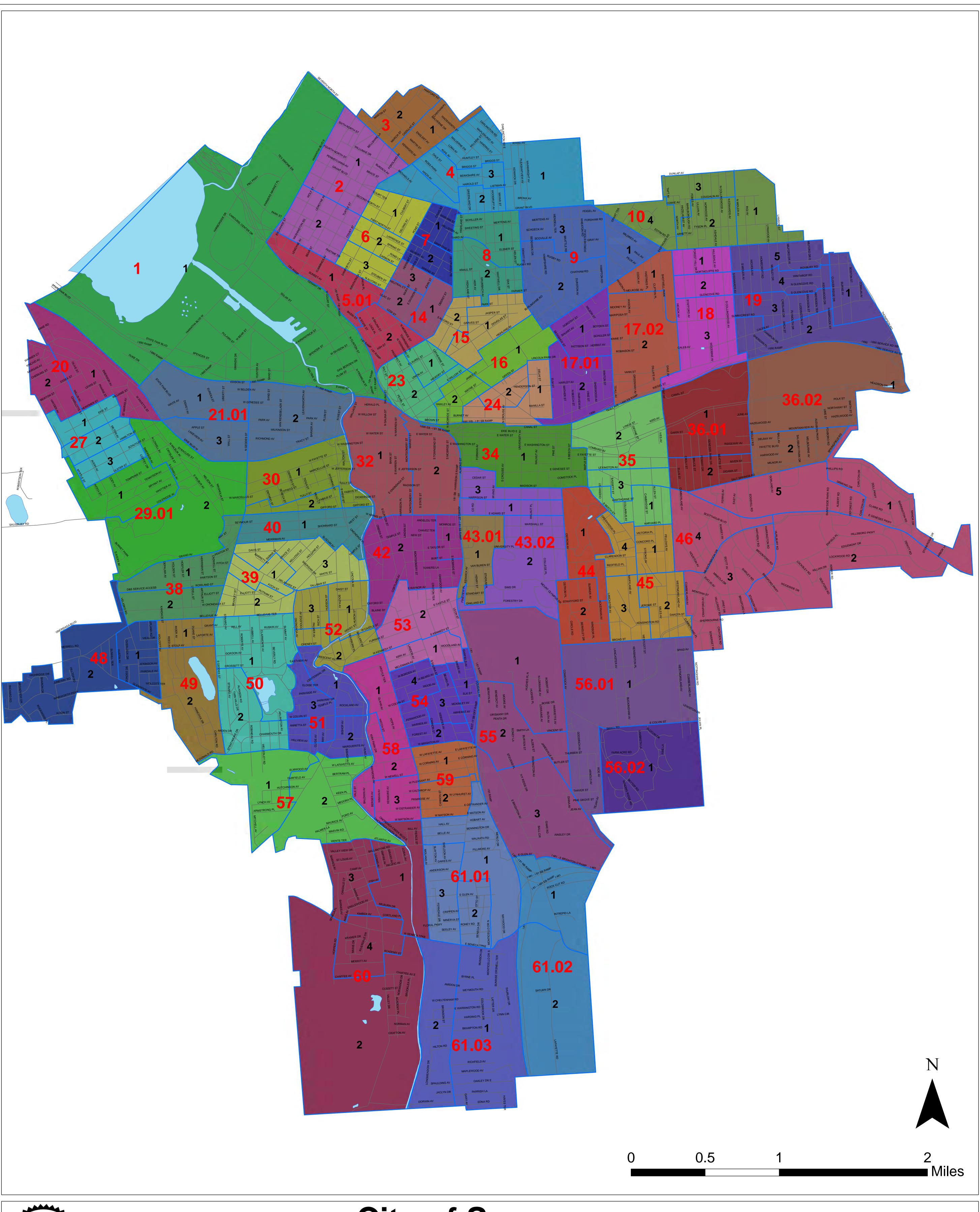
Please don't hesitate to contact me, if you have questions.

Thanks.

John Struble
Project Officer
USEPA
Brownfields Section
290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

Phone: 212-637-4291 (NY); 201-797-3317 (NJ)

Fax: 212-637-3083 (NY)





City of Syracuse
2010 Census Tracts

OMB Number: 4040-0004 Expiration Date: 10/31/2019

Application for l	Federal Assista	ınce SF	-424			
* 1. Type of Submiss  Preapplication  Application  Changed/Corre	ion: ected Application	⊠ Ne	e of Application: ew ontinuation evision		f Revision, select approp	oriate letter(s):
* 3. Date Received: 12/15/2016		4. Appli	cant Identifier:			
5a. Federal Entity Ide	entifier:				5b. Federal Award Ide	entifier:
State Use Only:				<u> </u>		
6. Date Received by	State:		7. State Application	Ide	entifier:	
8. APPLICANT INFO	ORMATION:					
* a. Legal Name: O	nondaga County	Indus	trial Developme	ent	t Agency	
* b. Employer/Taxpay	er Identification Nur	mber (EIN	I/TIN):		* c. Organizational DU	JNS:
d. Address:						
* Street1:	333 West Wash	ington	Street			
Street2:	Suite 130					
* City:	Syracuse					
County/Parish:						
* State: Province:					NY: New Yo	rk
* Country:					IION: IINITEED OF	mampa d
* Zip / Postal Code:	13202-9200				USA: UNITED S'	TATES
e. Organizational U						
Department Name:				Т	Division Name:	
Office of Envi	ronment					
f. Name and contac	ct information of p	erson to	be contacted on m	natt	ters involving this ap	oplication:
Prefix: Ms.			* First Nam	e:	Holly	
Middle Name:						
* Last Name: Gra	nat					
Suffix:						
Title: Project Co	ordinator					
Organizational Affiliat	tion:					
Onondaga County	y Office of En	vironm	ent			
* Telephone Number	: 315-435-8497	'			Fax Number	per: 315-435-8582
* Email: HollyGra	anat@ongov.net					

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:
B: County Government
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:
* Other (specify):
* 10. Name of Federal Agency:
Environmental Protection Agency
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:
66.818
CFDA Title:
Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:
EPA-OLEM-OBLR-16-08
* Title:
FY17 Guidelines for Brownfields Assessment Grants
13. Competition Identification Number:
NONE
Title:
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):
2010SyracuseCensusTracts.pdf Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:
Application for Brownfields Assessment of Selected Brownfield Opportunity Areas in the City of
Syracuse, NY on Behalf of the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency.
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.
Add Attachments Delete Attachments View Attachments

Application to	r Federal Assistance	SF-424			
16. Congressiona	al Districts Of:				
* a. Applicant	NY-24			* b. Program/Project NY	-24
Attach an additiona	al list of Program/Project Cor	ngressional District	ts if needed.		
			Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
17. Proposed Pro	oject:				
* a. Start Date: 1	0/01/2017			* b. End Date: 10	/01/2020
18. Estimated Fu	nding (\$):				
* a. Federal		300,000.00			
* b. Applicant		60,000.00			
* c. State		0.00			
* d. Local		0.00			
* e. Other		0.00			
* f. Program Incom	ne	0.00			
* g. TOTAL		360,000.00			
* 19. Is Application	on Subject to Review By S	State Under Exec	cutive Order 12372 Pr	ocess?	
				12372 Process for review of	on
	subject to E.O. 12372 but		elected by the State to	r review.	
c. Program is	not covered by E.O. 1237	72.			
* 20. Is the Applic	cant Delinquent On Any F	ederal Debt? (If	"Yes " provide expla		
	N.	`	roo, provide expla	nation in attachment.)	
Yes	No	•	roo, provido expla	nation in attachment.)	
	No explanation and attach	·			View Attachment
If "Yes", provide	explanation and attach		Add Attachment	Delete Attachment	View Attachment
If "Yes", provide of the signing the signi	explanation and attach  his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t	1) to the statement of the best of m	Add Attachment ents contained in the	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assu	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to
If "Yes", provide of the signing therein are true, comply with any	explanation and attach  his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t	1) to the statemo the best of me tan award. I am	Add Attachment ents contained in the ny knowledge. I also aware that any false,	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent sta	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to
If "Yes", provide of the signing therein are true, comply with any	explanation and attach  his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t resulting terms if I accept	1) to the statemo the best of me tan award. I am	Add Attachment ents contained in the ny knowledge. I also aware that any false,	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent sta	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to
If "Yes", provide of the significant of the signifi	explanation and attach his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t resulting terms if I accep minal, civil, or administra	1) to the stateme o the best of m t an award. I am tive penalties. (U	Add Attachment  ents contained in the ny knowledge. I also aware that any false, J.S. Code, Title 218, S	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent sta	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to tements or claims may
If "Yes", provide of the significant of the signifi	his application, I certify (complete and accurate tresulting terms if I acceptiminal, civil, or administratications and assurances, os.	1) to the stateme o the best of m t an award. I am tive penalties. (U	Add Attachment  ents contained in the ny knowledge. I also aware that any false, J.S. Code, Title 218, S	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent statection 1001)	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to tements or claims may
If "Yes", provide of the significant of the signifi	explanation and attach  his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t resulting terms if I accept minal, civil, or administra  fications and assurances, o s.	1) to the stateme o the best of m t an award. I am tive penalties. (U	Add Attachment  ents contained in the ny knowledge. I also aware that any false, J.S. Code, Title 218, S	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent statection 1001)	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to tements or claims may
If "Yes", provide of the series are true, comply with any subject me to cri ** I AGREE ** The list of certific instructions ** Authorized Representations**	explanation and attach  his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t resulting terms if I accept minal, civil, or administra  fications and assurances, o s.	1) to the stateme o the best of m t an award. I am tive penalties. (U	Add Attachment ents contained in the ny knowledge. I also aware that any false, J.S. Code, Title 218, S where you may obtain	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent statection 1001)	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to tements or claims may
If "Yes", provide of the serior are true, comply with any subject me to cri  ** I AGREE  ** The list of certif specific instructions  Authorized Representations  Prefix: Ms  Middle Name:	explanation and attach  his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t resulting terms if I accept minal, civil, or administra  fications and assurances, o s.	1) to the stateme o the best of m t an award. I am tive penalties. (U	Add Attachment ents contained in the ny knowledge. I also aware that any false, J.S. Code, Title 218, S where you may obtain	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent statection 1001)	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to tements or claims may
If "Yes", provide of the serior are true, comply with any subject me to cri  ** I AGREE  ** The list of certif specific instructions  Authorized Representations  Prefix: Ms  Middle Name:	explanation and attach  his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t resulting terms if I accept minal, civil, or administra  fications and assurances, o s.	1) to the stateme o the best of m t an award. I am tive penalties. (U	Add Attachment ents contained in the ny knowledge. I also aware that any false, J.S. Code, Title 218, S where you may obtain	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent statection 1001)	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to tements or claims may
If "Yes", provide of the sign of the sign of the subject me to critical specific instructions:  Authorized Representation of the sign of t	explanation and attach  his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t resulting terms if I accept minal, civil, or administra  fications and assurances, o s.	1) to the stateme o the best of m t an award. I am tive penalties. (U	Add Attachment ents contained in the ny knowledge. I also aware that any false, J.S. Code, Title 218, S where you may obtain	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent statection 1001)	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to tements or claims may
If "Yes", provide of the serior are true, comply with any subject me to cri with a specific instructions.  Authorized Representation of the serior and serior are true, comply with any subject me to cri with a specific instructions.  Authorized Representation of the serior are serior are serior are serior are serior and serior are serior ar	explanation and attach  his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t resulting terms if I accep minal, civil, or administra  fications and assurances, o s.  esentative:	1) to the stateme o the best of m t an award. I am tive penalties. (U	Add Attachment ents contained in the sy knowledge. I also aware that any false, J.S. Code, Title 218, Swhere you may obtain at Name:	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent statection 1001)	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to tements or claims may announcement or agency
If "Yes", provide of therein are true, comply with any subject me to cri with a specific instructions.  Authorized Representation of the specific instructions.  * The less of the specific instructions.  * Title: Project of the specific instruction.  * Title: Project of the specific instruction.	explanation and attach  his application, I certify ( complete and accurate t resulting terms if I accept minal, civil, or administra  fications and assurances, o s.  esentative:	1) to the stateme o the best of m t an award. I am tive penalties. (U	Add Attachment ents contained in the sy knowledge. I also aware that any false, J.S. Code, Title 218, Swhere you may obtain at Name:	Delete Attachment  list of certifications** and provide the required assufictitious, or fraudulent statection 1001)  this list, is contained in the	(2) that the statements urances** and agree to tements or claims may announcement or agency